CASE NO.: HSJ920030174US1   PATENT
Serial No.: 10/674,081   Filed: September 29, 2003
June 13, 2007
Page 2

replacement Page 2

head element detects the signal from only that single track and not from neighboring tracks.

With current hard disk drives, each track may be randomly written at any time without disturbing the data on any of the other tracks. This ability to randomly access the data on the surface of the disk is an important characteristic of hard disk drives which is not shared by all data storage systems.

In U.S. Patent No. 6,185,063, incorporated herein by reference, a method of writing tracks in partially overlapping fashion is described. This overlapping writing fashion can be referred to as "shingled track writing". Specifically, with shingled track writing, data tracks are written such that each written track partially overlaps an immediately adjacent track that is contiguous to it, like shingles on a tiled roof. Thus, a first track is partially overwritten when a second track contiguous to the first is written, which in turn is partially overwritten when a third track contiguous to the second is written, and so on.

As recognized herein, unlike the conventional approach described above, the write head width advantageously can be significantly larger than the track pitch in shingled track writing, whereas the width of the read back head element can be slightly less than the track pitch so the read back head still detects signal from only a single track and not from neighboring tracks.

~~The present invention recognizes that although, for reasons discussed more fully~~

1189-14.AMD

CASE NO.: HSJ920030174US1 PATENT
Serial No.: 10/674,081 Filed: September 29, 2003
June 13, 2007
Page 3

Replacement Page 12

the singular is not intended to mean "one and only one" unless explicitly so stated, but rather "one or more".

It is not necessary for a device or method to address each and every problem sought to be solved by the

present invention, for it to be encompassed by the present claims. Furthermore, no element, component, or

method step in the present disclosure is intended to be dedicated to the public regardless of whether the

element, component, or method step is explicitly recited in the claims. No claim element herein is to be

construed under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph, unless the element is expressly recited

using the phrase "means for" or, in the case of a method claim, the element is recited as a "step" instead of

an "act". Absent express definitions herein, claim terms are to be given all ordinary and accustomed meanings

that are not irreconcilable with the present specification and file history.

~~WE CLAIM:~~

1189-14.AMD